

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A method for reproducing information recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

irradiating a laser beam on a track of the recording medium to generate a reproducing signal; and

executing an equalization processing for reducing an inter-symbol interference by continuously changing a gain of amplitude regulation circuit in accordance with the reproducing signal.

3. (Previously Presented) A method for reproducing information according to Claim 2, wherein the smaller an absolute value of the reproducing signal, the greater the gain.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for reproducing information according to Claim 2, wherein the a large gain is used for a short mark, and the a small gain is used for a long mark.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for reproducing information according to Claim 2, wherein said gain is corresponding to an equalization coefficient.

6. (New) A method for reproducing information according to Claim 2, wherein said equalization processing is one of a 3-tap equalization processing and a 5-tap equalization processing, for reducing the inter-symbol interference by continuously changing the gain of the amplitude regulation circuit in accordance with the reproducing signal.

7. (New) A method for reproducing information according to Claim 2, wherein said continuously changing of the gain of the amplitude regulation circuit is accomplished by continuously changing the gain between a plurality of predetermined selectable gains, in accordance with the reproducing signal.

8. (New) An apparatus for reproducing information recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

a reproducing unit to irradiate a laser beam on a track of the recording medium to generate a reproducing signal; and

an equalizer unit to execute an equalization processing to reduce an inter-symbol interference by continuously changing a gain of amplitude regulation circuit in accordance with the reproducing signal.

9. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the smaller an absolute value of the reproducing signal, the greater the gain.

10. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein a large gain is used for a short mark, and a small gain is used for a long mark.

11. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said gain is corresponding to an equalization coefficient.

12. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said equalization processing is one of a 3-tap equalization processing and a 5-tap equalization processing, for reducing the inter-symbol interference by continuously changing the gain of the amplitude regulation circuit in accordance with the reproducing signal.

13. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said continuously changing of the gain of the amplitude regulation circuit is accomplished by continuously changing the gain between a plurality of predetermined selectable gains, in accordance with the reproducing signal.

14. (New) A system comprising:
at least one of a power supply, a processor, an input unit and an output unit;
and
an apparatus for reproducing information recorded on a recording medium,
including:

a reproducing unit to irradiate a laser beam on a track of the recording medium to generate a reproducing signal; and

an equalizer unit to execute an equalization processing to reduce an inter-symbol interference by continuously changing a gain of amplitude regulation circuit in accordance with the reproducing signal.

15. (New) A system according to Claim 14, wherein the smaller an absolute value of the reproducing signal, the greater the gain.

16. (New) A system according to Claim 14, wherein a large gain is used for a short mark, and a small gain is used for a long mark.

17. (New) A system according to Claim 14, wherein said gain is corresponding to an equalization coefficient.

18. (New) A system according to Claim 14, wherein said equalization processing is one of a 3-tap equalization processing and a 5-tap equalization processing, for reducing the inter-symbol interference by continuously changing the gain of the amplitude regulation circuit in accordance with the reproducing signal.

19. (New) A system according to Claim 14, wherein said continuously changing of the gain of the amplitude regulation circuit is accomplished by continuously changing the gain between a plurality of predetermined selectable gains, in accordance with the reproducing signal.